

SENATE QUESTIONS U.N. AIDE'S DEATH

Committee Says Soviet May Have Killed Bang-Jensen

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—The Senate Internal Security Subcommittee questioned today the 1959 decision by a New York police examiner that Povl Bang-Jensen, a Danish diplomat, committed suicide after his dismissal as a United Nations aide.

There were reasons, the subcommittee held after a long investigation, to suspect that Mr. Bang-Jensen might have been the victim of a Soviet "political murder dressed up as suicide."

The Dane, who had been assistant secretary of the United Nations Committee on Hungary, was dismissed largely because of his refusal to deliver to the late Dag Hammarskjold, United Nations Secretary General, the names of eighty-one refugees who had testified as participants of the Soviet-suppressed 1956 Hungarian revolt.

He had promised them immunity from disclosure, he said, because of possible danger to members of their families who remained in Hungary.

The United Nations, accusing Mr. Bang-Jensen of misconduct beyond the withholding of the names, found that he had implied "sabotage" and "dishonest motives" to colleagues in the United Nations.

List Is Destroyed

The list of witnesses' names was destroyed on the roof of the United Nations headquarters in January, 1958, but the case against the Danish Diplomat was pressed. He was suspended in 1957 and dismissed July 3, 1958. It was contended that he had lacked authority to suppress the list.

The body of Mr. Bang-Jensen was found in Alley Pond Park, Queens, on Thanksgiving morning, Nov. 26, 1959, after he had been missing from home for two days.

There was a bullet in his temple. Near by was a pistol that was identified as one he purchased in Washington in 1941 while "unsealor" of the Danish Embassy. A note indicating intent of self-destruction in Mr. Bang-Jensen's handwriting was on his person. The police called it a "clear case" of suicide.

The subcommittee disagreed

in the lengthy report it released tonight.

"There are," the report said, "too many solid arguments for suicide, too many unanswered questions, too many serious reasons for suspecting Soviet motivation and the possibility of information available today is that it is still unclear whether it was suicide or murder."

U. S. Security Brought In

Conceding that the subcommittee had no authority to investigate the United Nations generally, the document conceded there were phases of the Bang-Jensen case that directly involved the internal security of the United States.

One was a report that immediately after the suppression of the Hungarian revolt Mr. Bang-Jensen was approached by a Soviet national who contended he had proof that Moscow had important agents in the United Nations Secretariat and that the agents had penetrated United States intelligence.

Mr. Bang-Jensen's efforts to report this directly to Allen W. Dulles, then director of the Central Intelligence Agency, were blocked, the report stated.

"During the course of 1958,"

the report declared, "it had become known to at least several people" that Bang-Jensen had been approached in November, 1958, by a would-be defector who wished to convey information concerning Soviet control of key persons in the U. N. Secretariat and Soviet infiltration of American intelligence. Bang-Jensen had information—but the reports were vague and no one knew precisely how much he had or how much he had conveyed.

"Worried by this uncertainty, the M. V. D. [Soviet Secret Police] may very well have decided to take Bang-Jensen in for the purpose of finding out what contacts he had had, how much he knew, and how much he had already told the American authorities. If Bang-Jensen was taken into custody for such an interrogation, his liquidation would have been the inevitable sequel."

The report emphasized that, although the Danish diplomat had been missing for two days, he was found to be clean-shaven in death. This raised a question, the report held, of where he had been during the two days he was missing.

The report was issued by Senator Thomas J. Dodd, Democrat

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